

MY PSALM.

I mourn no more my vanished years
Beneath a tender rain.
An April rain of smiles and tears.

"Can't We Try Each Other Once More."

It was almost time for the Philadelphia express to be called, and in the waiting room the usual quota of travelers had gathered.

Her wide eyes questioned each face about her with wistful intentness, and there were occasional evidences of a mighty struggle of cogitation in her little mind.

The Desbrosses street ferry had just come in, and among the string of passengers who hurried into the waiting room were a man and woman, upon whom the child's eyes fixed themselves in speculative admiration.

"There are but a few moments to wait. I beg that you will not consider it necessary to stay. There was no occasion for your coming at all."

"But who takes care of you, dear?" "I don't know," she said, slowly, as though this were a new idea to her.

"Now see here; suppose I tell you, will you promise not to worry about it any more?" "A vigorous nod."

"Well, a divorce is—a divorce—well, two people get married, you know; and sometimes it doesn't work as well as they thought it would, so they go to the lawyer-man like yours over there and get unmarried."

"Won't you, please," she began, eagerly, her eyes searching the woman's face, "won't you please tell me what a divorce is?"

PEARLS OF THOUGHT.

It is not by the gray of the hair that one knows the age of the heart.—Bulwer.

Joy's recollection is no longer joy, while sorrow's memory is sorrow still.—Byron.

A joker is near akin to a buffoon; and neither of them is the least related to wit.—Chesterfield.

We never know a greater character unless there is in ourselves something congenial to it.—Channing.

The recipe for perpetual ignorance: Be satisfied with your opinions and content with your knowledge.—All Baba.

We should not be like the soapstone, that crumbles as it is rubbed, but like gold, that shines brighter and brighter the more it is used.—Mary Lyon.

There is in life no blessing like affection; it soothes, it hallows, elevates, subdues and bringeth down to earth its native heaven; life has nought else that may supply its place.—L. E. London.

PLANT BREEDING EXPERIMENTS.

Government Bureau Develops Lettuce Immune from Lettuce Disease.

Nearly all the winter lettuce in the United States has become diseased, the Washington Post says, as a result partly of "forcing" methods and of the failure of greenhouse gardeners to strengthen the stock of their plants by occasional crossings with wild lettuce.

"Your train goes next," he reminded her, watching her face intently. "I want to go with you, Honora. Of course, I won't go if it is offensive to you, but this is such a wretched business. Do you know what we are trying to do, dear? Can't we try each other once more? I know I've been a hideous brute; it was just cursed pride all through; but I love you, dear, and can't give you up. Let me come with you, just part way if you like, Honora, dear."

In his heart he cursed the public waiting room and passing people, forcing him to stand like a miserable automaton and cautiously mumble the words that came rushing into his mind.

QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

The biggest gas meter in the world is at East Greenwich. When filled it contains twelve million cubic feet of gas.

The ancient custom of putting a coin in the hand of the dead is still occasionally followed in the rural districts of France.

The query of Caesars concerning the origin of Caesar's greatness is one often repeated in these days regarding the Japanese. Upon what meat doth the little Jap feed that he has grown so great? As concerns his material food, it has been many times stated, to the amazement of the world, that he does his fighting on that slim and insipid cereal, rice.

The kite, according to ornithological authorities, is declared to be extinct, and it is practically so. But a vigilance committee has nevertheless been formed in Wales for the protection of the bird. A photographer recently traced one of the only pair of kites known to exist in South Wales to a cave in the mountains and with a lucky snapshot secured a photograph.

There are about ten millions of migratory sheep in Spain, which each year travel as much as two hundred miles from the plains to the mountains. Their march, resting places and behavior are governed by special regulations, dating from the fourteenth century. At certain times no one may travel the same route as the sheep, which have the right to graze on all open and common land on the way. For this purpose a road ninety yards wide must be left on all enclosed and private property. The shepherds lead their flocks, which are accompanied by provision mules, and by large dogs, to guard against a night attack by wolves.

Large Families in Great Britain. In St. Botolph's church, Aldgate, there is a monument to the memory of Agnes, widow of William Bond, who "bore him 16 children, eight boys and eight girls."

That was in the spacious 16th century, but it is noteworthy that John Gully, grandfather of the late speaker of the Commons, had 24 children. A year or two ago a Northampton shoemaker entered as his plea in the police court that he was the father of 32 children, of whom 27 were living; while 20 years ago Chester boasted of a couple who were "the happy father and delighted mother of 33 children," ten of them being alive in 1890.

But the record in family numbers belongs to Scotland. It is that of a Scotch weaver in the 16th century whose wife bore him 62 children. Only 12 died in childhood, 46 sons and four daughters living to be 21 and upward. This almost incredible record is fully and absolutely authenticated. Sir John Boves and three other gentlemen each adopted and reared ten of this prodigious family.—London Daily Chronicle.

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Usual Way. "Ever notice it?" queried the man who always begins his questions at the other end. "Did I ever notice what?" asked the party who had volunteered to assist with the dialogue. "That when one of them literary chaps feels he has a message for the world he always wants to send it 'collected'?" continued the other.

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